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No. 17

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 26, 2002.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JUDY BIGGERT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and every wonderful thing under the heavens, as the House of Representatives comes to order for legislative business today, we are mindful of our Jewish brothers and sisters as they "gather together with joy and happiness" for the feast of Purim.

The ancient prayer of Esther echoes in our prayer because of the circumstances surrounding our Nation now:

"Lord, our King, You alone are God. Help us. At times we feel alone and have no help but You. As children we learned from the people of this land and our founders that You, O Lord, chose us from among all peoples, and that You would fulfill all Your promises to them.

"Be mindful of us, O Lord, and manifest Yourself in this time of distress and give us courage.

"King of gods and ruler of every power, put in our mouths persuasive words. O God, more powerful than all, hear the voice of Your people in need. Save us from the power of the wicked and deliver us from all our fears."

In the end, Lord, You granted Your people victory and they rejoice to this very day. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PITTS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3699. An act to revise certain grants for continuum of care assistance for homeless individual and families.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2646. An act to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2011.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2646) "An Act to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2011," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses

thereon, and appoints Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. HELMS, and Mr. COCHRAN, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill and a joint resolution of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 980. An act to provide for the improvement of the safety of child restraints in passenger motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 32. Joint resolution congratulating the United States Military Academy at West Point on its bicentennial anniversary, and commending its outstanding contributions to the Nation.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO REPRESENT THE HOUSE AT GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTH- DAY CEREMONIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, February 14, 2002, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to represent the House of Representatives at wreath-laying ceremonies at the Washington Monument for the observance of George Washington's birthday held on Friday, February 22, 2002:

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.

PERMISSION TO INSERT PROGRAM AND REMARKS OF MEMBER REP- RESENTING THE HOUSE AT GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTH- DAY CEREMONIES

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the program and the remarks of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT), the Member representing the House of Representatives at the wreath-laying ceremony at

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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